

Serial No. 10/706,292

Docket No. K-0547

Amdt. dated January 17, 2007

Reply to Office Action of December 15, 2006

REMARKS

By the present response, Applicant has amended claims 1, 15 and 26 to further clarify the invention. Claims 1, 2 and 4-27 are pending in this application. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

In the Office Action, claims 1, 2, 4, 13, 14 and 26 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being anticipated by JP 2002341775 (Toshiba Corp.). Claims 6, 7, 10, 11, 15, 24, 25 and 27 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Toshiba Corp. Claims 22 and 23 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Toshiba Corp. in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,854,617 (Lee et al.). Claims 5, 8, 9, 12 and 16-21 have been objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that claims 5, 8, 9, 12 and 16-21 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant has amended the claims accordingly therefore putting this application into condition for allowance.

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35 U.S.C. § 102 Rejections

Claims 1, 2, 4, 13, 14 and 26 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being anticipated by Toshiba Corp. Regarding claims 1 and 26, Applicant has amended these claims with the subject matter of claim 5, deemed allowable by the Examiner, and therefore these claims are allowable over the asserted reference at least for these reasons. Regarding claims 2, 4, 13 and 14, Applicant submits that these claims are dependent on independent claim 1 and therefore, are patentable at least for the same reasons noted regarding this independent claim. Accordingly Applicant respectfully requests that these rejections be withdrawn and that these claims be allowed.

35 U.S.C. § 103 Rejections

Claims 6, 7, 10, 11, 15, 24, 25 and 27 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Toshiba Corp. Regarding claim 15, Applicant has amended this claim with the subject matter of claim 16, deemed allowable by the Examiner, and therefore this claim is allowable over the asserted reference at least for these reasons. Regarding claims 6, 7, 10, 11, 24, 25 and 27, Applicant submits that these claims are dependent on one of independent claims 1, 15 and 26 and therefore, are patentable at least for the same reasons noted regarding these independent claims. Accordingly Applicant respectfully requests that these rejections be withdrawn and that these claims be allowed.

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Claims 22 and 23 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Toshiba Corp. in view of Lee et al. Applicant submits that these claims are dependent on independent claim 15 and therefore, are patentable at least for the same reasons noted regarding this independent claim. Accordingly Applicant respectfully requests that these rejections be withdrawn and that these claims be allowed.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant submits that claims 1, 2 and 4-27 are now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, early allowance of such claims is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that any additional changes would place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney, Frederick D. Bailey, at the telephone number listed below.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this, concurrent and future replies, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 16-0607 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,
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